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PHILADELPHIA NO. 1 FREE DAILY IN THE US

Tuesday, June 14, 2016 metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPhilly

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Hundreds gather at City Hall for vigil to show unity, share pain for Orlando shooting victims. 2-3

CHARLES MOSTOLLER

3 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

MICROSOFT TO BUY LINKEDIN FOR $26.2B IN ITS LARGEST DEAL

1 Microsoft will buy LinkedIn for $26.2 billion in its biggest-ever deal, combining the software giant's business-productivity tools with an online network of 433 million professionals. For Microsoft, the deal will help it in its mission of trying to keep services like Outlook email relevant enough that customers won't want to leave it for competitors such as Google's Gmail. For LinkedIn, the opportunity to tap Microsoft's customers, including the 1.2 billion users of its Office suite of business software, could help it jump-start growth, which has slowed in recent quarters. REUTERS

BALTIMORE COP SAYS FREDDIE GRAY ASKED FOR HELP DURING FATAL RIDE

2 A Baltimore police officer testified Monday that black detainee Freddie Gray asked for help while being transported in a police van, where he suffered a broken neck. The officer, William Porter, took the stand in the trial of Officer Caesar Goodson, 46, the van's driver. Prosecutors contend Goodson gave Gray a "rough ride" and he is accused of second-degree depraved heart murder and other charges in Gray's death in April 2015. His death triggered protests and rioting in Baltimore and stoked a U.S. debate on police treatment of minorities. Goodson is the third of six officers to go on trial, and his attorneys argue that Gray caused his own fatal injuries. Porter testified in Baltimore City Circuit Court that he responded to a call to assist Goodson at the fourth stop the van made while transporting Gray. He found Gray, who was shackled, lying on his stomach on the van's floor, his head toward the front of the vehicle. REUTERS

TOP COURT TOSSES PUERTO RICO'S DEBT RESTRUCTURING LAW

3 The Supreme Court refused to revive a Puerto Rico debt-restructuring law, putting the U.S. territory at risk of a messy default unless Congress this month passes legislation to help the Caribbean island survive its crippling fiscal crisis. The justices ruled 5-2 that Puerto Rico's 2014 statute, which would have let it cut billions of dollars in debt at public utilities over creditor objections, conflicted with federal bankruptcy law. The justices left in place a 2015 appeals court ruling invalidating the law, called the Recovery Act. Passage of legislation now advancing in the U.S. Congress is likely the only remaining option to restructure Puerto Rico's debt in a bid to avoid a default. REUTERS

A woman holds a sign with images of some of the dead during a vigil held outside of City Hall. The gathering was to mourn the attack on the Pulse nightclub in Orlando, Florida.

Pain, unity at Philly vigil for club victims

Hundreds gathered outside City Hall to mourn the victims.

SAM NEWHOUSE
@scnewhouse
sam.newhouse@metro.us

Naa'iira Israel holds her hands up during a moment of prayer.

Emotions ran raw at a vigil outside Philadelphia City Hall on Monday evening to mourn the victims of a mass shooting in an Orlando, Florida, nightclub.

A crowd of hundreds, including many from the LGBT community, filled the plaza north of City Hall, then spilled out into the streets nearby.

Many wept as speakers paid tribute to Philly native and victim Akyra Murray, 18, who graduated from West Catholic Prep high school last week and was among the 49 killed in the shooting at Pulse nightclub early Sunday.

"As a queer black woman, I really wanted to support people, especially after hearing about the woman from West Catholic," said Felicia Carter, 23, of Elkins Park. "Being able to come out and show support, especially in a large public place, is courageous and really important for the community."

Some at the vigil were too overcome with emotion to speak. Others were bitter, with one young man shouting, "They're scared of a transgender in the bathroom, but they're shooting us in bathrooms!"

Others questioned media coverage of the massacre and the motives of shooter Omar Mateen.

"The media immediately made it seem like an Islamist attack, which it doesn't seem it was," said Christopher Thornton, 26, of Mantua, who held a placard reading "Queers Against Islamophobia."

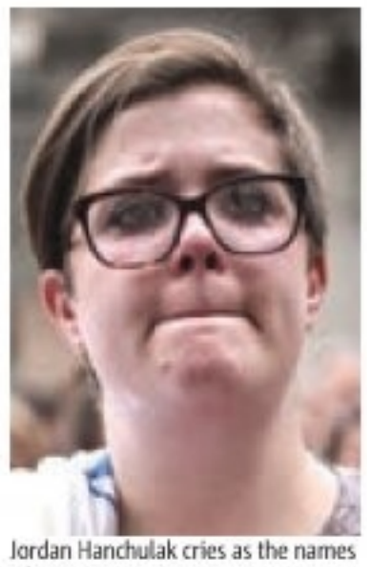
"People within the LGBT community know it was about violent homophobia, rampant masculinity, American values, white supremacy," he said. "They say he was an Islamist, and maybe he was. But most pictures show him dressed up like an NYPD officer."

Numerous Muslims were in attendance at the vigil as well.

"Muslims who follow Islam don't hate anybody on earth. … I don't care

CHARLES MOSTOLLER

A woman holds a sign with the names of the dead.



Jordan Hanchulak cries as the names of the dead are read.

Ashley Coleman holds her mother, Tatiana Gula, originally from Orlando.

about what your orientation is. I hope you don't care about mine, whatever it is, race, religion," said Abdul Hakim Dogon, 30, of Northeast Philly. "Whatever he was feeding his mind, his third eye, his pineal gland — that was wrong."

Mayor Jim Kenney called the shooting "a devastating moment."

"To LGBT members of our community, we love you, we care about you, we need you, and we have your back," Kenney said.

Council President Darrell Clarke took a more political stance in his comments at the vigil, calling the situation in which the shooter was able to legally acquire his weapons "utterly ridiculous."

"You do not need a gun with 30 bullets in a clip to shoot a deer," Clarke said, to cheers. "We've got to stop this, and we've got to do it now."

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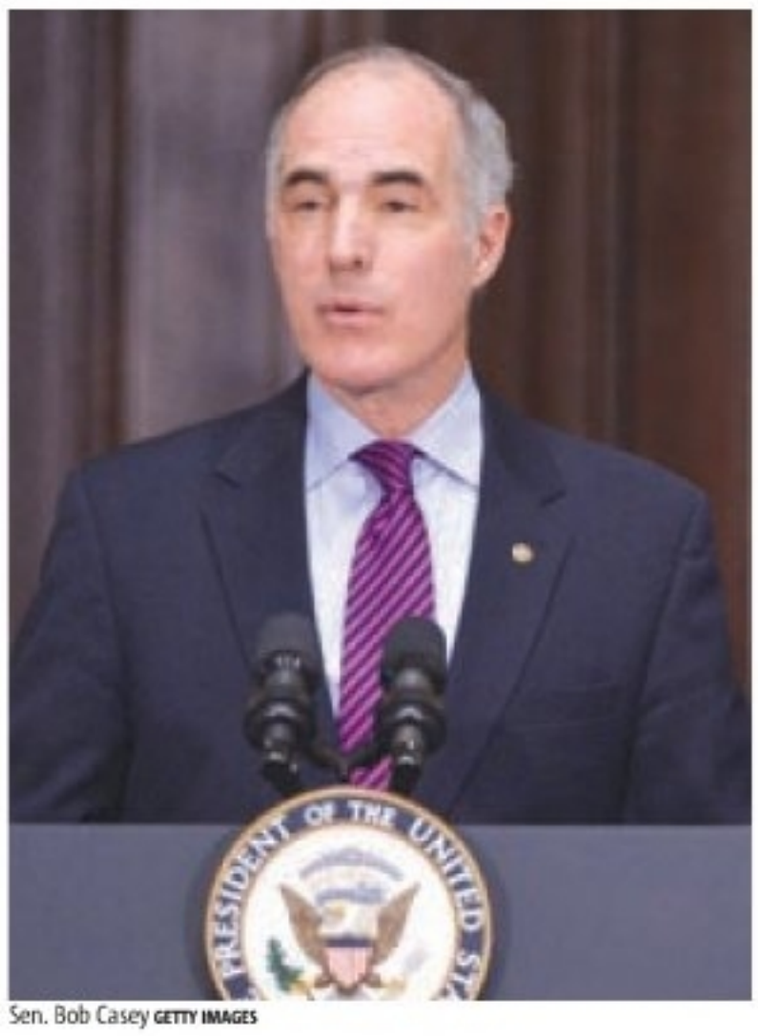
Casey introduces bill to ban gun sales to hate crime offenders

Bill "would keep guns out of the hands of those who commit criminal acts based on hate," the senator says.

SAM NEWHOUSE
@scnewhouse
sam.newhouse@metro.us



Sen. Bob Casey GETTY IMAGES

As news of the slaughter inside an Orlando, Florida, nightclub spread on Sunday, U.S. Sen. Bob Casey announced that he would respond with new gun control legislation.

Casey's proposed Hate Crimes Prevention Act would prohibit the purchase, possession or shipment of a firearm by anyone convicted of a misdemeanor hate crime who received a hate crime sentence enhancement. It would also prohibit the sale of firearms to anyone "reasonably suspected" to be guilty of a misdemeanor hate crime.

"If you have proven you will commit criminal acts based on hate, you absolutely should not have access to a gun. It's common sense," Casey said in a statement. "If you are a member of Congress and you say you care about security then you have to take steps to keep guns out of the wrong hands."

Current law prohibits those convicted of felony hate crimes from buying guns, but not misdemeanor hate crimes.

Casey added that "known hate groups are growing in the United States," citing the Southern Poverty Law Center's claims that 892 "hate groups" exist in the country, up 14 percent from 2014, and up 33 percent from 2000.

Casey added that an average of about 259,000 hate crimes happen each year, and between 2010 and 2014 alone, more than 43,000 hate crimes were committed with a firearm, according to National Crime Victimization Survey data.

Kate McGinty, the Democrat running in November against Republican U.S. Sen. Pat Toomey, said she strongly supports the proposal.

"While we continue to learn more about the perpetrator and his motives, what is clear is that we need to take serious action to protect our communities and prevent horrific incidents like this from occurring," McGinty said in a statement. "It is not enough to simply talk about reducing gun violence; we need solutions. We cannot allow senseless acts of gun violence and terror to become the norm in America."

Casey also supports other gun-related measures, including a ban on military-style weapons, limits on magazine sizes, a ban on those on the terrorist watch list from purchasing firearms and universal background checks.

> ***"It is not enough to simply talk about reducing gun violence; we need solutions. We cannot allow senseless acts of gun violence and terror to become the norm in America."***
>
> McGinty

Interfaith leaders denounce politics at victims' expense

Philly clerics, LGBT community speak out against blaming or isolating Muslims because of terrorist attack.

SAM NEWHOUSE
@scnewhouse
sam.newhouse@metro.us

Imam Salaam Muhsin of Masjid Ullah in West Oak Lane SAM NEWHOUSE

A group of Philadelphians representing Islam, Christianity, Judaism and the LGBT community held a gathering Monday to vow unity as the country moves on from the mass shooting in Orlando, Florida.

But they were also there to speak out against political and cultural figures blaming Muslims for the attack, which was committed by an American of Afghan descent who claimed allegiance to the militant Islamic State.

"We also will not allow people to trample on the [49] dead lives in Orlando, to use it for their own political purposes," said Mark Segal, publisher of the Philadelphia Gay News, his voice growing choked as he held up a copy of presumptive Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump's statement on the massacre.

Trump has called for a ban on Muslim immigration and monitoring of Muslims and mosques in the U.S. He reiterated that stance after the terrorist attack in Florida.

"Note, it never says the words lesbian, gay, LGBTQ," Segal said of Trump's reaction. "Never. He uses this statement to bash other groups of people," Segal said. "He doesn't address or speak to those of us who are mourning. You're a coward. Speak to us, don't use our bodies for your political purposes."

Faith leaders said they came together to show their collective support for Philadelphia's Muslim and LGBT communities, amid concerns that Muslims could be scapegoated for the shooting.

"I'm sad, brokenhearted and frustrated," said Rabbi Linda Holtzmann of Tikkun Olam Chavurah. "I've already heard words of hate blaming the Muslim community."

Despite their geographical distance from Orlando, leaders at the meetings said they still felt compelled to take a stance on the "fear and isolation" that local Muslims have reported feeling in the wake of the attacks.

"Here in Philadelphia, the Muslims walk down the street, they have the freedom like most cities don't have. Are we to intellectually say in our minds that we've made it and not care about our brothers and sisters from different walks of life?" asked Imam Salaam Muhsin of Masjid Ullah in West Oak Lane. "If I saw this happen to anybody, I would stand up."

Police: Bomb threat at Temple University

Liacouras Center GETTY IMAGES

Investigators gave the all-clear Monday night, hours after Temple University's Liacouras Center received a bomb threat that interrupted a graduation ceremony for students of Olney Charter High School.

The school's @TempleUniv Twitter account issued a warning around 3:30 p.m. Monday telling people to "use caution. Avoid the area. Police are responding." The threat and subsequent evacuation reportedly came as students from the charter school were at the end of their ceremony.

Brandon Lausch, a university spokesman, told PhillyVoice the threat was phoned in to police around 3 p.m.

"Police are investigating the caller," Lausch said. "There was a graduation ceremony for Olney [Charter] High School finishing up at the time and we evacuated the Liacouras Center out of an abundance of caution. We have also alerted our community."

Investigators used police dogs to scour the center until 6 p.m. Shortly after, the building was determined to be safe. Liacouras Center, a concert and sporting venue that is home to the Owls men's basketball team, is in the heart of the Philly campus.

MORGAN ROUSSEAU AND SAM NEWHOUSE

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Philly news intern survives Orlando nightclub shooting

A Philadelphia television news intern survived the Orlando mass shooting after being shot in the leg, Fox 29 reported on its Facebook page.

Patience Carter was reportedly recovering and was listed in stable condition along with her friend, who was also shot during the deadly massacre which killed 49 people and injured more than 50.

"We are so grateful to hear they are recovering and in good hands."
Fox 29

In its post, Fox 29 said it was sending "thoughts and prayers" to Carter. "We are so grateful to hear they are recovering and in good hands. We look forward to a speedy recovery and Patience's return to Fox 29," the news station said.

MORGAN ROUSSEAU

Patience Carter FOX 29

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Akyra Murray WEST CATHOLIC/FACEBOOK

West Philly teen victim of Orlando shooting

Akyra Murray, 18, was a graduate of West Catholic Prep.

ALEXIS SACHDEV
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

A Philadelphia teenager vacationing with her family in Florida was among the victims in the massacre in Orlando over the weekend.

Akyra Murray, 18, traveled to Florida on Friday with her family. Saturday night, she went with a cousin and a friend to Pulse nightclub, Murray's father told CBS Philly.

The FBI later confirmed that his daughter, who had graduated West Catholic Prep just weeks prior, was among the victims in a shooting that claimed 49 lives and injured another 53.

"I've cried so much I don't think I can cry no more," her father, Albert Murray, said.

Murray was a "superstar" and a "leader" among her classmates, West Catholic Prep said in a statement posted to its website Monday. The teen was an honors student who graduated third in her class and was a 1,000-point scorer on the Lady Burrs basketball team. She had signed a letter of intent to play for Mercyhurst College.

"At a time like this, let us work together to move beyond fear," the school's statement said. "Let us come together to find peace and strength in God, seeking comfort from our loved ones — and in our community."

The school will offer grief counseling through the rest of the week, and plans to hold a vigil in her memory.

"Our hearts are broken, but together we will mourn Akyra's loss and provide comfort to one another to honor the memory of such a wonderful young lady."

"I've cried so much I don't think I can cry no more."
Albert Murray

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Cops identify Phillies beer-bottle thrower

Howard GETTY IMAGES

The suspect who threw an aluminum beer bottle onto the field at Ryan Howard earlier this month has been identified.

Sidney Smith, 21, of Wilmington, Delaware, turned himself in to police on Friday, Philadelphia police said. He was cited for disorderly conduct and was released.

The incident happened at the end of the Phillies' game against the Milwaukee Brewers, which the Phils lost, 6-3. Howard was walking back toward the dugout after grounding out. Smith hurled the Bud Light Lime bottle in Howard's direction, but didn't strike the player. He then left without being stopped or ejected by Phillies security.

Philadelphia's sports teams aren't known for having the most peaceable fans.

Sports Illustrated ranked Eagles' fans the worst in the NFL last year. Still, Phillies' manager Pete Mackanin says it's not all fans.

"I wouldn't group the fans together," Mackanin told Metro after the bottle incident. "There's always a bad apple in the bunch and that's all it takes. One person who does something like that. They like to win, they're fanatical. They know their baseball … I'm not going to put that on the Phillies fans because of one bad apple."

ALEXIS SACHDEV

100 residents displaced in multi-alarm Philly fire

Firefighters responded to the three-alarm blaze just before dawn Sunday.

ALEXIS SACHDEV
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

The building where the fire occurred GOOGLE MAPS

A fire broke out early Sunday morning in a West Philadelphia apartment building, forcing about 100 residents from their homes.

Just before 5 a.m. Sunday, a three-alarm fire erupted on the top story of the four-floor Netherlands building on the 4300 block of Chestnut Street, NBC10 reported. The blaze tore through six units, leading to a partial collapse. Wires fell from above, and bricks were toppling off the back of the building.

Philadelphia Fire Commissioner Adam Thiel told NBC10 that, despite "very tough firefighting conditions" from heat and construction of the building, there were no serious injuries to residents or firefighters.

Thiel said his crews placed the fire under control about 6:15 a.m.

The Office of Emergency Management and the Red Cross partnered to open a shelter nearby, at the 4200 block of Ludlow Street in the Cato School for all displaced residents, 6ABC reported.

The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

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Doylestown, PA – Fred Beans, CEO and founder of the Fred Beans Automotive Group located in Doylestown, PA, has announced a **ONE DAY SALE** on Saturday, June 18th at 9:00AM. Due to an overwhelming public demand, vehicles will be sold for as low as **$999**.*

Cars will be clearly marked, so come early for the best selection. This is a **ONE DAY ONLY** sale designed to get the local community driving again.

Fred Beans' pre-owned inventory levels need to be reduced to make room for shipments of new models arriving daily. As a result, **all 9 Fred Beans Doylestown locations are selling these overstocked pre-owned vehicles to the public at drastic discounts in an attempt to clear excess inventory**.

Along with this huge variety of pre-owned vehicles, the Fred Beans Family of Dealerships in Doylestown features new Ford, Lincoln, Mitsubishi, Dodge, Chrysler, Jeep, Hyundai, Nissan, Subaru, Chevrolet, Cadillac, Buick, GMC, and Volkswagen vehicles.

Fred Beans believes reviving the economy starts at home, and changing things locally will lead to changing things nationally.

In addition to the Fred Beans Family of Dealerships' extra inventory, additional vehicles have been acquired at incredible prices for this sale from various banks, repossession companies, auto auctions, credit unions, lease companies, and rental companies.

The sale will make pre-owned vehicles available for as low as **$999**,* prices not normally offered to the general public. According to Fred Beans, ***"We want to give our customers a reason to believe in the local economy again. Someone has to look out for their best interest."***

Customers are encouraged to arrive and register by 8:15AM to inspect the entire inventory and find the car that's right for them. Every vehicle will be cleaned, detailed, and fully prepared for instant delivery. On the evening of June 17th, after the close of business, Mr. Beans and his team will mark the special sale price on each and every vehicle. Because Fred Beans' customers are feeling the credit crunch right now, the Fred Beans Automotive Group has given the dealerships' financing managers the resources necessary to get most customers' credit approved on the spot.

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This special **ONE DAY ONLY** sale will be held at all 9 Fred Beans Doylestown locations this Saturday, June 18th at 9:00AM.

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Customers wishing to trade in a vehicle are asked to bring their title or payment book for immediate delivery. Fred Beans will even pay off your trade-in in full, no matter how much you still owe on it.†

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Clinton, Trump clash over Orlando massacre

In speeches scheduled before the slayings at a club, the rivals discussed their starkly differing approaches to national security.

Hillary Clinton on Monday warned against demonizing Muslim Americans, while Donald Trump again called for banning foreign-born Muslims from entering the country after the Orlando, Florida, nightclub massacre that was the deadliest mass shooting in U.S. history.

"The Orlando terrorist may be dead, but the virus that poisoned his mind remains very strong, and we must attack it," Clinton, the Democrats' presumptive nominee for the Nov. 8 election, said in a speech in Cleveland.

Trump was more critical, lashing out at President Barack Obama by questioning his motives for refusing to use the term "radical Islamic terrorism" in describing such attacks. He argued that both the president and Clinton were unfit to lead the nation.

Omar Mateen, 29, the U.S.-born son of Afghan immigrants, armed with an assault rifle and pledging loyalty to militant group Islamic State, opened fire at a gay nightclub in Orlando early on Sunday.

In proposals for dealing with threats of violence at home and abroad, Clinton called for increased efforts to remove Islamic State propaganda from the internet, more air strikes in the areas held by the militant group and better coordination with allies in the region.

She specifically called out three U.S. allies — Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Kuwait — for allowing their citizens to fund mosques and schools that train jihadists.

She also called for stricter gun control laws, reiterating prior calls to prohibit those on terrorism watch lists from buying guns. She pointed out that while the Federal Bureau of Investigation was aware of Mateen as a possible threat, he was still able to legally purchase a gun.

Clinton has called for a complete ban on assault-style guns.

Clinton called on Americans to come together in the way they did after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon. She pointed out that, at the time, she was a Democratic U.S. senator representing New York, while the U.S. president, New York governor and New York City mayor were all Republicans.

"Americans from all walks of life rallied together with a sense of common purpose on September 12. … We had each others' backs. We did not attack each other, we worked with each other to protect our country and rebuild our city," Clinton said. "It is time to get back to the spirit of those days, the spirit of 9/12, let's keep looking for the best within our country, the best within each of us."

Earlier, Trump questioned Obama's motives for not using the term "radical Islam" in an interview on Fox News.

"He doesn't get it or he gets it better than anybody understands," Trump said. "It's one or the other, and neither one is acceptable."

Trump has for years suggested that Obama is secretly a Muslim. In 2011, when the wealthy businessman drew national attention for demanding that Obama produce another copy of his birth certificate, he told Fox News, "maybe it says he is a Muslim." Obama is a practicing Christian.

Donald Trump, Hillary Clinton GETTY IMAGES

"It's important that we stop the terrorists from getting the tools they need to carry out the attacks, and that is especially true when it comes to assault weapons like those used in Orlando and San Bernardino." Clinton

"We're led by a man that either is not tough, not smart or he's got something else in mind," Trump said on Fox without being specific. "And the something else in mind. People can't believe it. … There's something going on. It's inconceivable." REUTERS

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Thousands attend a vigil in London to mourn Orlando shooting victims

The Eiffel Tower was lit in rainbow colors on Monday night in tribute to Orlando victims.

A vigil for the victims of the Orlando shooting, outside the Admiral Duncan pub on Old Compton Street, Soho on Monday in London, England. GETTY IMAGES

Thousands of people held a two-minute silence at a vigil in London's Soho neighborhood on Monday to remember the victims of a massacre at a gay nightclub in Orlando, Florida.

Bars stopped serving, crowds fell silent and hundreds of balloons were let off in memory of those killed. London Mayor Sadiq Khan was in attendance.

"We stand here today united together in solidarity with our U.S. neighbors, our friends, our colleagues, our family and all of those affected across the LGBT community," Scottish National Party equalities spokeswoman, Angela Crawley, told Sky News.

A vigil was also held in the Canal Street district in central Manchester, northern England — an area of the city that is filled with gay bars and restaurants.

The Metropolitan Police said there was no intelligence to suggest an increased risk of attacks in London but it has increased its patrols in areas popular with the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community.

On June 25, Pride will hold their annual parade and related events in central London for the LGBT community.

The Eiffel Tower was lit up in rainbow colors on Monday evening in tribute to the victims of the massacre in a gay nightclub in Orlando, Florida.

In March, the Eiffel Tower displayed Belgian colors after twin attacks by Islamists in Brussels killed at least 26 people.

Monuments throughout the world were lit in the colors of the French flag in November when 130 people were killed in Islamic State attacks on a concert hall, cafes and a stadium. REUTERS

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US Navy: Second aircraft carrier enters Mediterranean

U.S. aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower GETTY IMAGES

The aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower entered the Mediterranean late on Monday, the Navy said, at a time when officials are raising alarm over Russia's maritime expansion.

The Eisenhower, also known as the "Ike," will relieve the USS Harry S. Truman carrier strike group which later this month heads back to the United States after an extended eight-month deployment.

The Eisenhower, which also leads a strike group of cruisers, destroyers and warplanes, is scheduled to continue on to the Persian Gulf to participate in U.S. air strikes on Islamic State targets in Iraq and Syria. Exact details of its deployment have not been released.

Fighter jets based on the Truman have been carrying out air strikes against Islamic State from the Mediterranean since June 3.

The Eisenhower's deployment is part of a rotation of forces supporting maritime security operations around the globe, the Navy said. Its strike group includes two guided-missile cruisers, four guided-missile destroyers and nine air squadrons.

The Navy said the presence of two carrier strike groups in the Mediterranean showed the U.S. commitment to safety and security, while sending "a strong message of support to our allies and partners in Europe."

The move coincides with NATO military exercises across eastern Europe and Turkey that may raise tensions with Russia.

U.S. officials say Russia is operating warships and submarines in the Mediterranean and plans its own military exercises in coming weeks. REUTERS

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Hispanics shaken by heavy toll at Orlando nightclub massacre

For Puerto Rico, it was the latest and most tragic in a litany of hardships to afflict the U.S. territory, ranging from a crippling $70 billion debt to an exodus of its youth to the U.S. in search of jobs.

It was a carefree "vacilón" — a pumped up party — at Orlando's Pulse nightclub on Saturday night, full of Latinos dancing to salsa, bachata and thumping reggaeton at the gay club's Latin music night.

By early Sunday morning, the party was shattered by the biggest mass murder in modern U.S. history. Most of the 49 people shot dead by a single gunman were Latino, more than half of them of Puerto Rican origin and at least three of them Mexican citizens, according to officials.

For Hispanics throughout the country, it was a shock to see so many Latino names on the list of the dead, and many were concerned that the tragedy affected a vulnerable subset of Latinos in the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer community.

"We are in crisis," said Zoe Colon, director of Florida and Southeast Operations for the Hispanic Federation, a national community service group.

Colon said victims and their families needed services such as hotlines and counseling in Spanish. Some victims would need assistance applying for visas specific to victims of crime. And she expected many families will need help raising funds to bury loved ones back at home, particularly in Puerto Rico.

People gather outside the Beardall Senior Center, currently being used to interview family members of the victims of the Pulse nightclub shooting, on Monday in Orlando, Florida. GETTY IMAGES

"What happened was not only an attack on our brothers and sisters of the LGBTQ community, but also an attack on our Hispanic community."

Colon, speaking at a news conference with Latino organizations

Close to 30 percent of Orlando's population is Hispanic, and some 300,000 people of Puerto Rican heritage live in the metropolitan area. The Puerto Rican government set up a regional office in Orlando two years ago to support the community there.

Officials from Puerto Rico and Mexico said they were working to get support in place for families. Puerto Rico Gov. Alejandro Garcia called the shooting hateful and said family members of workers in his administration had been killed.

"We are helping to orient families with any paperwork they have to go through to bring home the bodies of the victims to the island," Rolando Padua, deputy secretary of state for the Puerto Rican government, told Reuters by telephone. REUTERS

BRIEF

Officials: No direct link between shooter, IS militants

U.S. authorities said on Monday they had found no direct links between Islamic State militants and the gunman who killed 49 people at a gay nightclub in Orlando, describing him as a homegrown extremist who was inspired by radical Islamist groups.

The FBI and other agencies were still looking at evidence inside the club and on the closed-off streets around the Pulse nightclub, where New York-born Omar Mateen perpetrated the worst mass shooting in modern U.S. history.

Mateen, 29, the son of Afghan immigrants, was shot and killed by police who stormed the club with armored cars early on Sunday morning after a three-hour siege.

"So far, we see no indication that this was a plot directed from outside the United States and we see no indication that he was part of any kind of network," FBI Director James Comey said in Washington. "We're highly confident this killer was radicalized at least in some part through the internet."

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Could O.J. Simpson be Khloe Kardashian's father?

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

An alleged jailhouse phone call between Khloe Kardashian and O.J. Simpson is once again raising questions about who the reality star's father really is.

According to the Daily Mail, a guard at the Nevada prison where Simpson is serving a 33-year sentence for armed robbery claims he calls Kardashian weekly. "One day I could hear Khloe screaming in the phone," says the guard, Jeffrey Felix, in a new documentary "Kardashian: The Man Who Saved OJ Simpson." "He said she was upset because she wanted him to take a paternity test, because the media is all over him, to see if O.J. is her actual dad — and O.J. told her 'no.'"

Simpson even allegedly asked for his advice. "I said, 'Why won't you take it?'" Felix claims. "He said, 'It's a family matter, it's none of the public's business.'"

Khloe herself has wondered — openly, on a 2009 episode of "Keeping Up with the Kardashians" — about whether Robert Kardashian is her real father. His second and third exwives both claimed he said she wasn't his child, and while her mother, Kris Jenner, has admitted to being unfaithful to Kardashian during their marriage, she's denied any claims he's not Khloe's dad.

Zayn Malik reveals struggle with anxiety

Gigi Hadid is lending her support to boyfriend Zayn Malik after he pulled out of last weekend's Capital Summertime Ball in London less than two hours before showtime, citing his struggle with anxiety. "Unfortunately my anxiety that has haunted me throughout the last few months around live performances has gotten the better of me," he wrote on Twitter.

Thousands of fans and celebrities have reached out to Malik to offer words of support. Hadid also responded with her own message: "We are all here to support you and make each experience easier. Your talent and good heart will never lead you wrong. Love you and so proud of you always."

In light of recent rumors about Malik and Hadid's breakup, her message was loud and clear: The couple is still very much together and in love. Thank goodness — we're still recovering from the Calvin Harris-Taylor Swift split.

Time to talk about Meg Ryan's face (again)

Meg Ryan's role in "When Harry Met Sally" is almost as memorable as her role in when Meg Ryan's new face met everyone at the 70th annual Tony Awards. And by the looks of it, if Harry met Sally again, he would be just as perplexed as the rest of the world.

We get it, aging is hard, but trying to defy it has left her looking like a mashup of Jane Fonda and Goldie Hawn. Sure, she still has the body of Kathleen Kelly in "You've Got Mail," but we can't tell if her arm situation is being caused by the sleeves of her dress or, well, her arms.

The 54-year-old Ryan has previously denied all plastic surgery rumors — this isn't the first time she's been accused of having some work done. But it's time to either accept that stars are just like us, or let them do what's necessary short of getting a Dorian Gray portrait for their attic.

Christina Grimmie's best musical moments

Watch online at **metro.us**

We still can't get over the horrific death of young talent Christina Grimmie, and wanted to celebrate her legacy. Before she rose to national fame as a finalist on NBC's "The Voice," she was a South Jersey native, studying at Cherokee High School and posting covers on YouTube as zeldaxlove64. A self-made success story, she first achieved stardom on YouTube in 2009 with her cover of Miley Cyrus' "Party in the USA" and in 2011 released her first EP, "Find Me," which debuted at No. 2 on iTunes. She auditioned for "The Voice" in 2014 and finished in third place. As family, friends and fans mourn the loss of this young musician, we take a look back of some of her best musical moments, including "Titanium," "Wrecking Ball" and "Hold On We're Going Home." For the full list, visit metro.us.

The Cheesesteak Segway Tour

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ALBERT LEE
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In the quest for the "best Philly cheesesteak," shouldn't getting there be half the fun? After all, why walk or drive when you can Segway? That's right: a Cheesesteak Segway Tour. Genius. This two-hour escapade takes hungry enthusiasts to five hand-picked city spots to indulge in this gooey Philly staple and then lets their very full bellies decide who deserves to win the crown!

Why walk to experience Philly cheesesteaks when you can Segway? ALL PHOTOS ALBERT LEE

This cheesesteak from Sonny's is topped with the red stuff.

All venues are determined by the personal preference of the tour guide but always include Pat's King of Steaks, Geno's Steaks and Jim's Steaks, since it's quite hard to ignore their immense popularity. What is open for discussion however, is the most important question to ask before taking your first bite: "What would you like on your cheesesteak?"

Michael Ford, who's given this tour more than 250 times in its five-year history says the majority of his customers prefer "whiz wit" — (Cheez Whiz with fried onions for all those who don't understand the Philly vernacular) and couldn't care less about dousing it with ketchup. For the record, he loves whiz without and topped with the red stuff from Sonny's in Old City.

After you learn to maneuver the Segway inside the Old City facility, it's off to see and taste Philly. No guided tour is complete without learning a little history; the journey covers Old City, Chinatown, Society Hill, South Street and Bella Vista.

When you arrive at each stop, the guide picks up a sandwich in line and returns with it cut in quarters to share. When all is said and done, customers receive the equivalent of one and a quarter sandwich.

Kevin and Mary Markwell from Chicago disagreed on the top choice. "I love Pat's," said Kevin, while Mary thought Sonny's deserved first place since it was all about the cheese. (Their sandwiches were all topped with Cheez Whiz, fried onions and mushrooms.) But all could agree that riding a Segway through Philly to enjoy its most iconic sandwich is the way to go. "It sure beats walking," says the Markwells. 'Nuff said.

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Emeril opens up a seafood restaurant at the Sands Casino

If you want to eat at an Emeril Lagasse Restaurant on the east coast, your only option is to travel to the Lehigh Valley. Despite having grown up in Massachusetts and working regularly in New York, Lagasse has chosen the Sands Casino in Bethlehem as the site of three of his restaurants — Emeril's Chophouse, Burgers and More by Emeril, and now, Emeril's Fish House.

"I've had a Fish House in Las Vegas for 22 years," he says. "I grew up on the ocean and live on the ocean now. I'm a fisherman and there's this connection I have with the sea."

When it comes to freshness, Lagasse is a self-professed fanatic and buys from 16 different purveyors to ensure that fresh fish comes in if not daily, then at least every other day.

"There's nobody that does fish better than us and I don't know where you can go [here] to get really outstanding fish, unless you go to Philadelphia," Lagasse says.

And how about the menu? You'll see a lot of comfort food favorites to appeal to the local clientele but Lagasse is also "kicking it up a notch" with some Creole flair as well.

The Lobster Rockefeller bisque is definitely comforting, creamy and warm made of spinach, fennel, cream and a touch of Pernod (which is absinthe if you didn't already know).

The melt-in-your-mouth Miso Glazed Seafood Scallops are prepared with baby bok choy, vegetable fried rice and miso butter.

Finally, if you're a crab cake fan, Lagasse's take on the popular food item includes Creole remoulade, arugula and pickled red onion.

For more on Emeril's Fish House, visit pasands.com

JENNIFER LOGUE

If you go

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Emeril Lagasse enjoys a meal at his new restaurant in the Sands Casino. PROVIDED

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Brooklyn is for lovers

Emma Straub is cool with her buzzy new book being called a beach read.

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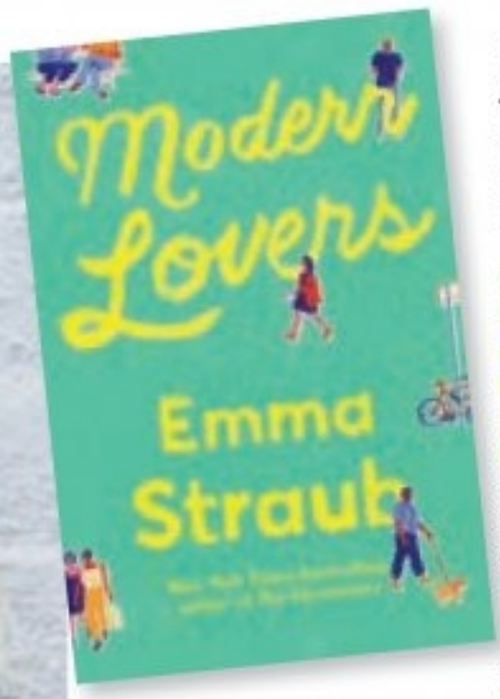

Author Emma Straub CREDIT:JENNIFER BASTIAN

In many ways, watching your neighborhood transform over the years feels like watching your children grow up. Sometimes, you feel helpless about these changes, other times they mirror your own growth. Author Emma Straub is no stranger to this shift.

"I remember when I graduated from college, it seemed like half of my graduating class moved to Brooklyn and I had this weird freak out where I was like, 'But it's not theirs, what are they doing?' she recalls. "I got very possessive. In general, I'm not a possessive person. But I got very possessive about my city."

Straub, a New York native, grew up and started a family of her own all while living in various corners of Brooklyn. She uses the borough as a character in her latest novel, "Modern Lovers," set in Brooklyn's quaint Ditmas Park neighborhood. The novel traces the paths of Andrew, Zoe and Elizabeth, who have known one another since their punk rock days in college. Now approaching their 50s, they are forced to take a step back and reevaluate their relationships and their priorities. Given its perceptive take on youth and growing older — and its spot-on depiction of gentrifying Brooklyn — "Modern Lovers" is a must-read this summer.

"Whenever people talk about summer reading and beach reading, they really mean a book that you're reading for pleasure," she says. "If my book falls into that category, I think that's terrific."

We spoke with Straub about the joys of modern love in Brooklyn.

What was the inspiration behind "Modern Lovers"?

I was personally inspired by having a middle-aged neighbor who played the drums in a local rock 'n' roll band. I would often hear him practicing. I thought it was so cool and fun that he was a grown-up person with a family and a life who still cared enough about playing music to do it with his friends. I tried to write a short story about that. And then I realized the story I was interested wasn't really about the band itself. It was about marriages and parenthood and all those other things.

Which character do you relate to the most?

I relate to all of them to varying degrees. I think Harry, the teenage boy in the book, is probably the closest in some ways just because he's a little bit innocent and not as worldly as he would like to be at 16, which is how I felt at the time.

Throughout the book, there are ordinary moments that are strangely compelling and relatable. Why did you write about these?

That's what I like to read about. Sometimes I like a good crime story/mystery novel, but mostly what I like to read are books about people living their lives and their relationships. I never worry about having a story that seems too quiet, because I think that's how life is. When you go and meet a friend for dinner and they tell you the stories of whatever has happened to them since you saw them last, those are the stories you listen to and are interested in — stories about people you care about. It's not about asteroids and monsters, although sometimes asteroids and monsters are fun. I don't think that writers get to choose their milieu.

What do you plan on reading this summer?

Rumaan Alam has a debut novel coming out in June called "Rich and Pretty." Another friend of mine, Stuart Nadler, has a book coming out in July called "The Inseparables." And I'm also really looking forward to reading the new Ann Patchett. She's one of my heroes.

As a native New Yorker, how have you experienced the changes in Brooklyn that you allude to in the book?

I've seen the borough change enormously. When I started high school, Brooklyn was this far-off land. I went to summer camp with a lot of kids from Brooklyn, and I never saw them during the year because it felt like going to the moon from where I lived [in Manhattan]. Now, it doesn't feel that way. I think like all changes to places that you love, sometimes it seems wonderful and like a neighborhood is becoming more robust. And sometimes it seems terrible and like there's sort of an overdevelopment tipping point where it starts driving people out because the rent gets too high. I don't think it can keep going like this forever. I think there is this Brooklyn fever pitch that's happening right now, and once that passes, it'll be nice.

Do you think there will be a new Brooklyn anytime soon?

Yes — Queens!

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4 Indie art destinations in Fishtown and Kensington

The word "indie" sparks mixed emotions among artists of all shapes and sizes. But in terms of fine art in Fishtown and Kensington, there's not much that could be considered mainstream. Even while Frankford Avenue's clientele blossoms as a bro bar crawl on the weekends, the area is full of artistic escapes. Here's where you should go.

Aside from getting great deals on furniture, Jinxed Philly's location in Frankford hosts regular art shows. JINXED

The Convent Philly

1648 E. Berks St.
This delightfully macabre space could be considered a darker, more sinister complement to Old City's Arch Enemy Arts. Its specialties lie in comic-inspired caricatures, gothic portraits, and even affordable illustrations and prints. To give you a glimpse, it just hosted Hannah Carter and Caitlin McCormack performing a (likely) Tim Roth-approved puppet show.
theconventphilly.com

Jinxed Philly

1331 Frankford Ave.
At this point, it's a Philly staple with five locations (they're also in West Philly, Queen Village, on Passyunk Ave. and in the Piazza), and there's never a shortage of art on their walls. Sure, some of it's kitsch and vintage in nature, maybe brutally framed. But that's part of its affordable magic. But at the Frankford location, you can catch regular shows of rotating artists coordinated by Sam Heimer.
jinxedphiladelphia.com

LMNL Gallery

1526 Frankford Ave., first floor
Rumor has it that the Frankford Avenue front may be on its last legs and that, on its Front Street side, new art ideas are getting kicked about. But until July 1, it has "Daysleeping Sleepwalking" on display, Joshua Ben Long's exploration of design and materials yielding sculptures big and small, ranging from adorable to terrifying.
lmnlgallery.com.

Little Berlin

2430 Coral St.
At this point, LB has been holding it down for years in Kensington as one of the vanguard art spaces, a cooperative-run space that fuses performance art, a gallery experience, and always encouraging community-building. Up now is Ethan Patrick Sherman's curation of four artists exploring "Developer" (through June 30th) — images that explore built environment around the world (Izaak Schlossman, Matt Mancini, Rory Rosenberg and Ricky Yanas).
littleberlin.org.

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Paula Patton finds her inner nerd

Paula Patton plays a half-orc, half-human with fangs in the video-game adaptation "Warcraft." LEGENDARY PICTURES, UNIVERSAL PICTURES, ILM; GETTY IMAGES

The actress gets to turn into a half-orc half-human in the splashy fantasy film "Warcraft."

Paula Patton will be the first to admit that she didn't know much about the video game franchise "World of Warcraft" when she picked up the script for Duncan Jones' film adaptation. So wrapping her head around the idea of playing a human-orc hybrid was more than a little daunting. Luckily the actress, now 40, had a director she trusted and an unending amount of patience for all the makeup tests to get her signature look.

How did Duncan Jones ease you into the world of "Warcraft"?

The way he explained this world to me and the passion he had, I was so moved. Before we got lawyers involved he was like, "Do you want to do this?" and I was like, "I want to do this!" I got in my car and I went, "Oh s—!" I was so scared. I wanted to do it justice. But how I would I become a half-orc, half-human? Then I realized that the thing that you are most scared of doing, you should do, you know? It's all those things that compelled me to be a part of it. I didn't really know what I was in until I watched the movie. I had this whole new respect for Duncan. I was in awe of him.

It must be daunting, though, bringing a movie like this out into the world.

It's about having no fear. Sometimes you feel as though you're in competition. But if you have no fear and you have faith in yourself, then you can achieve that — and you can achieve it with partnership, with a team. I believe it is mind over matter, just like in the fantasy film: It's about imagination. You can will it to yourself. You have to have faith and believe and not let [in] any bit of negativity or doubt or what came before you or what people say. You have to decide your own reality and make it possible.

What was the process of getting into your very elaborate costume and makeup for this film?

That process began way before we started shooting. We did a lot of tests to find it and make it. It was trial and error. I had a moment of [doubt] when I had signed on to do the film. I went to the bathroom and saw myself in the mirror for the first time and I almost had a panic attack. I was like, "Wait, I can't f—ing do this!" [Laughs]

That look could definitely give you pause.

My friend talked me down. I came to embrace it because I was afraid. I didn't know how I was going to become this half-orc, half-human. But it became a collaborative effort: costumes and makeup and hair, all with Duncan's vision. Then you put on the finishing touches, the tusks and the contact lenses — which really obscured my vision — and that was that last bit. I didn't feel human — and certainly not wearing much clothing while everyone else wore clothing made me feel like I didn't fit in. I came to embrace it. MWN

Protect yourself from the Zika virus

Pregnant or trying? Listen up.

HAYLEY GREASON
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

Mosquitoes are annoying at the best of times, but when you can't turn on the TV without hearing about a disease they're spreading, the winged menaces are downright terrifying.

Zika virus is a mosquito-borne illness that causes severe birth defects in fetuses of infected mothers. It's been a problem for pregnant women in faraway places like South America and the Caribbean, until now: On June 1, a mother infected with Zika gave birth to an infected baby in New Jersey.

The baby was diagnosed with microcephaly — a head smaller than expected due to lack of brain development. There's more. While once thought to be transmitted via mosquito bite, the World Health Organization recently announced Zika can also be transmitted sexually. Men can pass it to women during unprotected sex, and women who become pregnant — or who are already pregnant when they are infected — can pass it to their fetuses.

What does all this mean if you're pregnant or trying for a baby? We spoke to Dr. Jesse L. Goodman, former chief scientist of the FDA and a member of the Institute of Medicine and renowned expert on infectious diseases, about Zika and how to keep yourself safe.

Is the Zika virus expected to affect the U.S.?

The main mosquito type that has transmitted Zika — currently there's an outbreak in South America — is pretty widespread throughout the southern United States, especially further south. We have the mosquitoes here that can transmit it, but as of yet, that Zika isn't in those U.S. mosquitoes. So what everybody is worried about is if it gets into that mosquito population. The mosquitoes could fly here, which is less likely given their short life span. [It's more likely] for an individual who was infected elsewhere, like the Caribbean or South America, to get bitten by a mosquito here, which could then begin transmitting the virus here. But so far that hasn't happened.

The WHO released new information that the disease can easily be sexually transmitted.

Yes. If a male tests positive, the CDC recommends that they should either use condoms or abstain from sex for six months to avoid transmitting it sexually. If a woman tests positive, and is not pregnant, it's recommended that they protect against pregnancy, in this case for at least two months. Pregnant women need to be concerned if their sexual partner has travelled to an area where there could be Zika.

What's the most important thing to know for people who either are, or want to get pregnant?

People need to take it very seriously. The consequences for a fetus can be terrible. Although mosquitoes are the main way of transmitting the virus, it is also a sexually transmitted disease, and when it's sexually transmitted, it can be a serious problem. Now people have to view another aspect of responsible sex, transmitting Zika, particularly to a woman who might be pregnant or be becoming pregnant in the future.

How can people protect themselves?

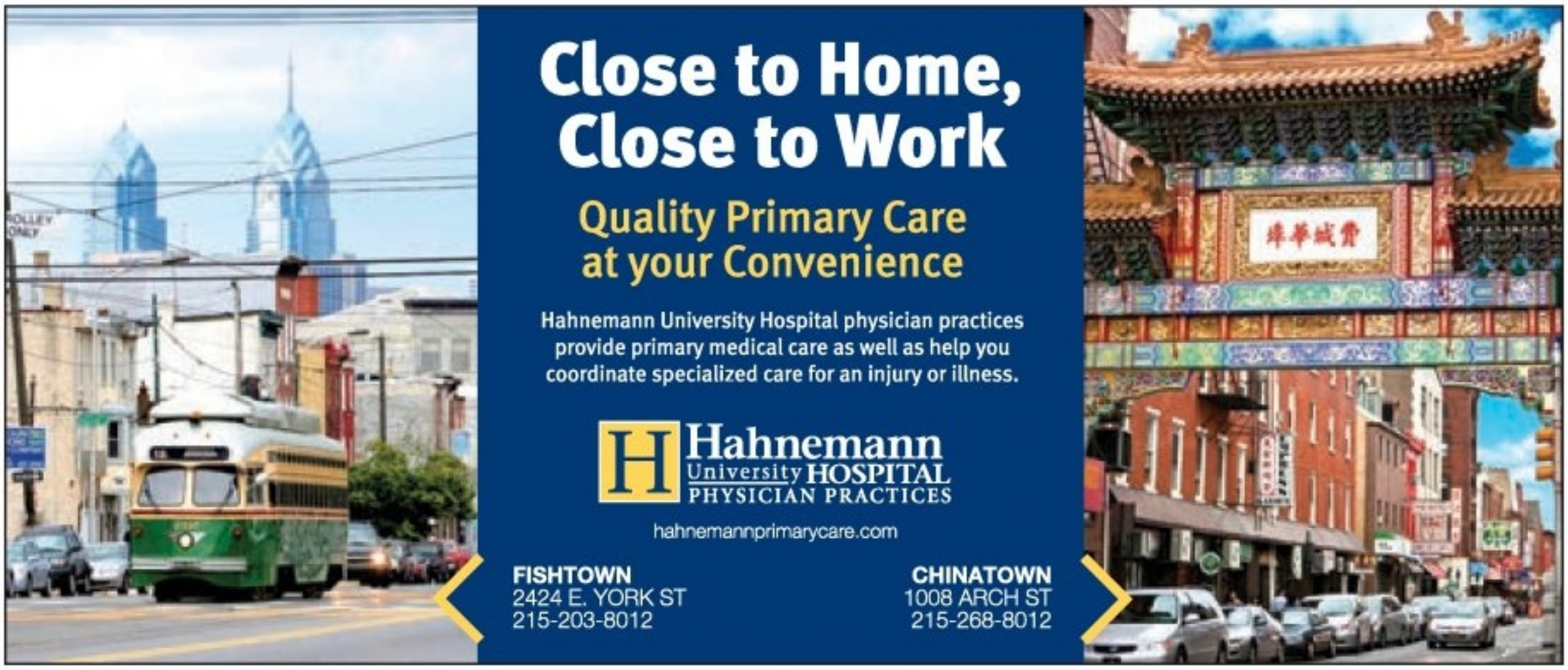
Do what is possible to reduce exposure to mosquitoes that might transmit disease. The second thing is education. Then, particularly, people who are planning a pregnancy should do everything possible to reduce their personal risk of exposure, like using a BPA approved mosquito repellent and trying to keep covered when outside. And people should avoid travel to areas where we already know Zika is circulating such as in Latin America or the Caribbean.

What are the symptoms?

For most adults — other than pregnant women and their sexual partners or people planning pregnancy — it either causes no symptoms or it is an annoyance. Most patients who have the virus have no symptoms at all, they don't feel sick. And then maybe one in five have a fever, aches, a rash, red eyes. In a much smaller number, something like 1 in 10,000 or less, get neurologic complications like Guillain Barre Syndrome.

What's a clear indicator that someone in the U.S. should get tested for the virus?

Its recommended if people have travelled and developed symptoms, pregnant women who have travelled or moved to areas where Zika virus is known to be, it is recommended that they get tested.



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The James Beard Foundation partnered with the Mushroom Council for the project. KEN GOODMAN

Blended burgers are a step toward a healthier world

The James Beard Foundation aims for sustainability and wellness with the Blended Burger Project.

EVA KIS
@thisiskis
eva.kis@metro.us

Making a dish most people already love more healthful, more sustainable and cheaper? The Blended Burger Project is that kind of delicious idea. Started by the James Beard Foundation last year, it's back to challenge chefs to create burgers that swap out at least 25 percent of the meat for mushrooms.

"It's a simple challenge, but with a really great potential to change how Americans enjoy this classic American food," says Kris Moon, vice president of JBF.

The blended burgers are on menus now at more than 200 restaurants around the country, and you have until July 31 to try them (see jamesbeard.org/blendedburgerproject for participating eateries).

"Top Chef" judge Hugh Acheson made the burger to kick off the project. He blended upstate lamb with a 30 percent ratio of creminis that had been pulverized and slowly cooked with garlic, shallots and thyme, then topped it with Boursin ("the Velveeta of France"), grilled tomato and dill pickles on a potato roll.

How did it taste? The mushrooms created a complexity that lamb can lack but weren't a distinctive presence — which is the idea when it comes to converting our favorite comfort foods into something that resembles a reasonable eating decision.

"It's gotten a lot easier to advance the idea of a vegetable-rich diet because 20 years ago somehow, someone, somewhere learned how to cook vegetables," he says.

"Now we know how to impress you with a plate of Brussels sprouts and make a charred-carrot salad that you'll happily pay $15 for."

The rising cost of meat isn't negligible, either — "I'm not sure if you've noticed how your steak has gotten a lot smaller in the last 10 years?" — which has forced chefs to take vegetables more seriously. And the results will benefit everyone.

"If you can have every kid eating something like a blended burger at school," he says, "you are changing the way America eats and you're changing the health and livelihood of people."

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PHILLIES 'REALITY' STILL LOOKING GOOD

GLEN MACNOW

OPINION

Glen Macnow has been an outspoken voice in Philly sports for nearly three decades.
@realglenmacnow

Zach Eflin, after dominating the minors, makes his Phillies debut against the Blue Jays this week. GETTY IMAGES

Like all good Phillies fans, I was amazed and delighted at the club's 26-21 start. Hey, we marveled, perhaps they're further along than we expected. Some delusional fools (read: me) even supposed they might be buyers at the trade deadline.

Ah, well, back to reality. A 3-13 skid pushed the Phils down to where they belong, and slapped sanity into silly dreamers. Maybe Hector Neris isn't all that. Maybe Vince Velasquez couldn't be untouchable the second time. Maybe corner outfielders with a collective .301 slugging percentage keep you from playing meaningful baseball in September.

But here's the thing: Reality isn't bleak at all. In fact, it's encouraging. Just not always at Citizens Bank Park.

After watching an 8-0 Phils loss to Washington on Saturday, I tuned in to that night's televised game of their Triple-A team, the Lehigh Valley IronPigs. The good guys pasted the Durham Bulls (without Crash Davis), 16-1, with power, speed, pitching and smarts. There were even brawls thrown in for good measure.

One blowout win means little, but consider this: The Phillies top-three farm teams have a collective .606 winning percentage. It's the achievement of an elite group of prospects.

The next generation is stirring. Zach Eflin, 22, makes his first start for the Phils tonight.

In Lehigh Valley, outfielders Nick Williams and Cam Perkins are pushing for promotions. Shortstop J.P. Crawford is struggling to adjust, but he'll get there. There's an intriguing rotation, now led by 22-year-old Jake Thompson.

At Double-A Reading, 6-foot-6 right fielder Dylan Cozens has 19 homers and 12 steals. Jorge Alfaro, Roman Quinn, Rhys Hopkins and another group of young pitchers keep winning.

By law of baseball's averages, half those names will fail or get injured. But if 50 percent wind up at CBP, that's a hell of a lot of talent. Make sure you thank Ruben Amaro Jr. next time you see him hitting fungos at Red Sox BP.

I believe in Maikel Franco as a future All-Star despite his lackluster start. He's still 23. I believe in Odubel Herrera as a cog. And I believe in Aaron Nola and Velasquez as the front end of a rotation, provided Vinnie's "biceps" problems don't turn out to be code for "elbow" problems.

I predicted in this space last year the Phils will be our next pro team to contend for a title. I believe it more today. The Sixers remain a collection of misfit parts. The Flyers have attractive pieces but — stop me if you've heard this before — lack the goalie they can ride through the playoffs.

The Eagles? C'mon, be serious.

The Phils, for all the pain we hear in Larry Andersen's voice, at least have a credible pathway to success. You just can't always see it in South Philly. To visualize it, travel to the homes of their farm teams. Hey, I'll be in Reading next Thursday for a 1 p.m. game. I'll meet you there and we'll toast the sunny future.

Copa America: Chile, Panama will fight to advance in Group D at Linc

Chile (1-0-1) and Panama (1-0-1) have everything to play for on Tuesday (8, Fox Sports 1) when they meet at Lincoln Financial Field in Philadelphia in their final Group D match. Argentina (2-0-0) is in the driver's seat in Group D and if they tie or beat Bolivia (0-0-2) on Tuesday (10, Fox Sports 1), they will capture first-place. That means that Chile and Panama are competing for second-place: Chile only needs a draw since their goal-differential is zero while Panama's is minus-4, meaning that they need a win to advance to the quarterfinals.

Chile certainly hasn't made things easy on themselves as they needed a miracle finish to hold off Bolivia, 2-1, on Friday at Gillette Stadium in Foxboro, Massachusetts. Bolivia was called for a very questionable hand ball on defender Luis Gutierrez in its defensive box deep into injury time against Chile and midfielder Arturo Vidal was able to drill his penalty kick for the game-winning goal (his second goal of the game).

Panama beat Bolivia, 2-1, in its opener last Monday at Camping World Stadium in Orlando thanks to Blas Perez's two goals, but then they were on the wrong end of the Lionel Messi show in Friday's 5-0 blowout loss to Argentina.

The best soccer player in the world showed that he still has it after he entered as a substitute in the 61st minute (he missed Argentina's first match with an injury). When he came in, his team was only up 1-0 on Panama but Messi proceeded to score a hat trick in 26 minutes of action. Panama won't be the last team that gets embarrassed by Messi but that scoring outburst really hurt their chances to advance in the 2016 Copa America.

It feels like Chile is overdue for a good performance after they were lucky to walk away with a one-goal loss to Argentina. Arsenal striker Alexis Sanchez is one of the most dangerous offensive players in the world but he has yet to record a goal or assist in Chile's first two games (despite having a combined six shots on target). Expect that to change soon, possibly against Bolivia. If Sanchez can get going, Chile will start to play to their ability. The winner of Group D will meet the runner-up of Group C (probably Venezuela) while the runner-up of Group D will take on the winner of Group C (probably Mexico) in next Saturday's quarterfinals.

RICH SLATE

We're still waiting for Alexis Sanchez's first Copa America goal. GETTY IMAGES

Is Cricket Club ready to host US Open, other PGA events?

The course dazzled last weekend as host to the Senior Players Championship.

EVAN MACY
@evan_macy
evan.macy@metro.us

Bernhard Langer may have been the champion, but Philadelphia Cricket Club was the star last week. GETTY IMAGES

The greens are fast. The wind is swirling. The rough is tough and the bunkers are bountiful.

Philadelphia Cricket Club, the oldest country club in the country — dating back to 1854 — is making a statement. With major championship conditions.

In this weekend's Constellation Senior Players Championship, the course in Flourtown hosted its biggest golf tournament since holding U.S. Opens in 1907 and 1910.

And if you are this year's champion — the Champions Tour's top golfer, Bernhard Langer — it's ready for more.

"Of course they could hold any event here," Langer said when asked if the trek could host a U.S. Open. "You could make this golf course so hard, it's unbelievable. They still have a few hundred yards, some back tees, they can tighten these fairways and let the rough grow and you wont even be able to find a golf ball."

The course played a grueling 6,963 yards for the Champions Tour event, a rigorous length for most weekend golfers and clearly a tough test for some of the best golfers in the world. Many PGA Tour courses boast well over 7,000 yards, a milestone Cricket Club could easily eclipse if needed. A field filled with dozens of PGA Tour winners was unable to post one 72-hole score under par — Langer's 1-over 281(Miguel Angel-Jimenez and Joe Durant tied for second at two-over apiece).

"This is a real test and it's a fantastic design and great layout," Langer continued.

The Philly area most recently hosted the 2013 U.S. Open at Merion, an event that was lauded for its success and for the quality and difficulty of the golf course but left a bit to be desired as far as infrastructure and organization were concerned.

If a PGA Tour major like the U.S. Open or PGA Championship were to visit the Cricket Club, these concerns would need to be addressed at the unique and historic club.

"The only problem could be hosting an event, an even bigger event. Where do you put all the tented villages?" Langer said. "You would have to do what they're doing right now where the holes are mixed up and you're starting out here and you're putting everything away from the clubhouse sort of thing."

The galleries of people, at times, are nowhere near the heart of the Cricket Club and its clubhouse. Many holes were shuffled (order-wise) and shuttled are required for transportation quite often across the venue. But that's OK — this weekend it worked quite well.

But a U.S. Open, as Merion demonstrated, could draw a multitude more people. Could the Wissahickon Course (designed by A. W. Tillinghast, designer of Winged Foot and Bethpage Black) be up to the task?

"They've got another golf course over there (two actually, Militia Hill Course and St. Martin's Course) so they've got lots of room, I imagine," Langer said. It just takes some kind of bright mind to figure it out."

Brandon Ingram worked out for the Sixers Monday. GETTY IMAGES

Tide could be turning from Simmons to Ingram

Not long ago, it looked like Ben Simmons to the Sixers was a sure thing.

The presumptive No. 1 overall pick had Australian connections to head coach Brett Brown, the LSU star looked to be comfortable with the idea of playing in Philadelphia, and basketball analysts singled out Simmons as the best player in the draft.

Things change.

Duke's Brandon Ingram, expected to be the other top-2 pick in the draft in two weeks, arrived to Philly Sunday night and reportedly had dinner in Rittenhouse Square with a bunch of Sixers luminaries — including Joel Embiid and Brett Brown. He then had a workout for the Sixers and media members at their practice facility Monday, viewed by Embiid, Jahlil Okafor, Robert Covington and others.

Ingram, according to NJ.com's Elliot Shorr-Parks, said the thing that separates him from other top prospects is his "mental toughness." Is this a shot at Simmons?

Reports seem to be swirling (and were confirmed by Bryan Colangelo on Monday) that Simmons refuses to work out for the Sixers. There is no Philadelphia visit on the books and no plans for one, despite the 76ers' interest in meeting with him (he isn't working out for any teams).

This seems to go against the consensus that Simmons — who at first revealed he wanted to play for the Lakers, holder of the No. 2 pick — had no reservations about coming to Philadelphia. Maybe he does.

The tide could be turning away from the 6-foot-10, gifted ball-handled and scorer to Ingram, who is a talented shooter whom Brown described Monday as being "silky smooth, fluid."

According to ESPN analytics, Ingram projects to be the best player out of the 2016 NBA draft.

"Despite the consensus among scouts, these projections question whether Simmons is truly the best player in the class," Sharon Katz and Paul Sabin wrote. "Ingram has the highest draft grade, based on total projected SPM, and he is most likely to play at the level of an All-Star or starter during his first five seasons."

The Sixers, as is expected, continue to keep things close to the chest, and Colangelo has spoken publicly multiple times about the merits of taking Simmons. Ingram will work out for the Lakers on Thursday. EVAN MACY

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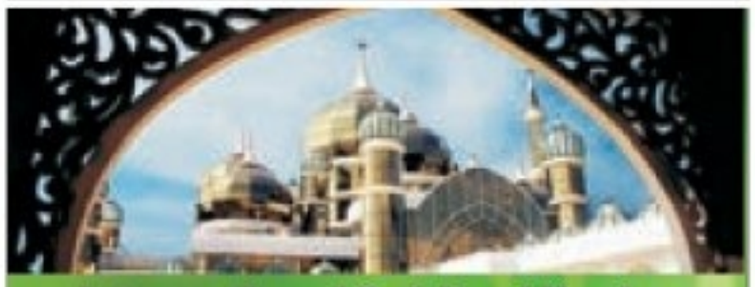

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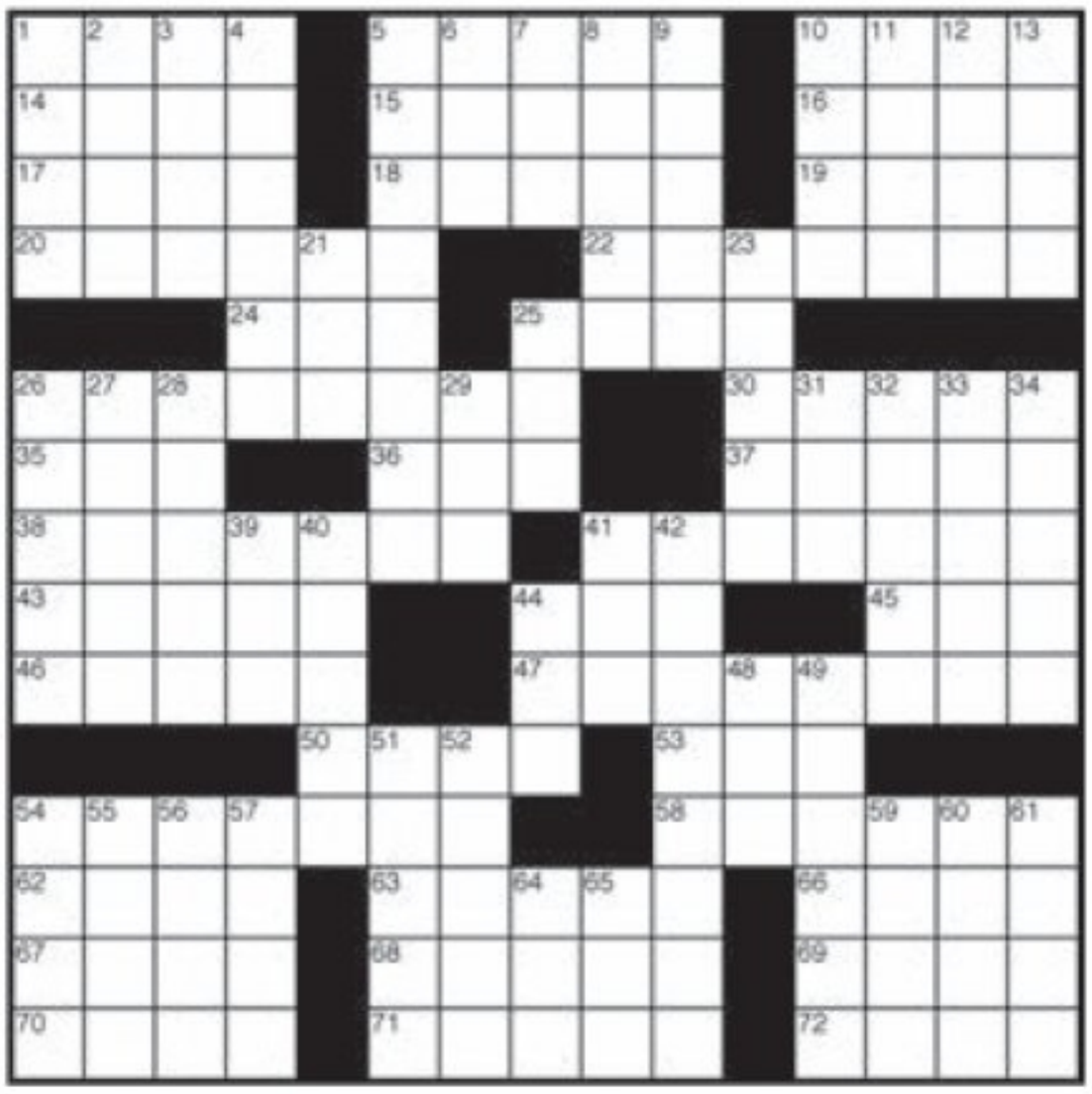

Across

1 Raucous laughs
5 Unwind
10 Crazed captain
14 Colorado neighbor
15 Ham it up
16 NYC art gallery
17 Coins in the fountain
18 Nile dam
19 Frank
20 Split to join
22 Thundering
24 TV Tarzan
25 Chablis, for one
26 Way too properly
30 Strains the brain
35 Untold centuries
36 Opposite of "paleo"
37 Ludicrous
38 Fancy trim
41 Willowy
43 Small pansy
44 "ER" setting
45 Lib. section
46 ATM key
47 Jackson and Jordan
50 Rough it
53 Frequent 007 foe
54 1950s card game
58 In and of —
62 San — Obispo
63 Rummage through
66 A Great Lake
67 Cats do it
68 Waits in traffic
69 1899 Gold Rush town
70 Ship's trail
71 To date (2 wds.)
72 Cookbook amts.

Down

1 Gift-giving time
2 Elec. or water
3 Syrup brand
4 Gives form to
5 Gearing up
6 911 responder
7 Near the floor
8 Video-game pioneer
9 Kin of argon
10 Omnia vincit —
11 Kachina maker
12 Revival shout
13 Loud noise
21 Chicago Loop trains
23 Hawk's lair
25 Grand Teton st.
26 Irritate
27 "The Kiss" sculptor
28 Gold brick
29 Brown of big bands
31 Fay's role in "King Kong"
32 Core group
33 Pay homage
34 Castle underlings
39 Percent ender
40 DEA agents
41 Biol. or astron.
42 Most fortunate
44 Little rascal
48 Elev.
49 Somewhere else
51 Open-air lobbies
52 Motel staffers
54 Crab appendage
55 Mystique
56 Pottery flaw
57 Memorable tennis champ
59 Winged god
60 Like a wet noodle
61 Service charges
64 House buzzer
65 Spike or Ang

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easy

	2	7			5		3	
5			4		7			6
	1				3	7		9
						3	7	
		5		7		9		
	4	1						
4		6	9				8	
8			7		4			1
	9		3			6	4	

hard

1			7		3	6		
7			8					
		4	1			9		
	5		4	7	1			
	1		6		9		2	
			5	8	2		7	
		9			5	7		
					8			5
		3	9		7			6

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Aries Romance, travel, intrigue and a change in your financial situation are all prevalent. Embrace change, and share your thoughts and feelings with someone you love.

Taurus Professional gains, improvements and improvements to your lifestyle and reputation are all possible. Stay focused on what's important to you in order to get what you want

Gemini Take a moment to size up your situation before you make a decision. A mistake will be costly and will put you in a precarious position with someone you care about.

Cancer Emotions will escalate if you get involved in a joint financial venture. Secrets will not be easy to keep. An unexpected encounter will put you on the spot.

Leo If you help others, you will benefit as well. A change in the way you do things will be emotionally satisfying. A strong tie to someone special will lead to greater commitment.

Virgo Too much of anything will set you back. You will need to keep your head if you don't want to be stuck with something you don't want and cannot use.

Libra It's a good day to travel. Discuss your ideas and learn from someone. You'll prosper if you are dedicated to reaching your goals. Personal improvements will be enlightening.

Scorpio You can be nice without people taking advantage of you. Set boundaries and carry on doing what you enjoy most. An investment will turn sour due to misinformation.

Sagittarius Look at all the possibilities before you make a move. Change is necessary, but your decision must be made for the right reason. A partnership looks promising.

Capricorn A change at home or to your lifestyle will not be ideal. Look for the positive in whatever situation you face in order to excel today.

Aquarius Money matters are improving. A chance to make positive changes at home or elsewhere is apparent. Romance will brighten your day and lead to a joint venture.

Pisces Think before you take action. Nothing will be as it appears. You'll be misled if you let someone else take care of your personal or professional affairs. EUGENIA LAST

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